

WSDA – Small Dairy Workgroup

The 2006 Legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 6377 directing the Department of Agriculture to convene a work group to identify and help resolve obstacles faced by small-scale dairies in their efforts to become licensed as milk producers and milk processing plants

The workgroup will:

Evaluate the licensing processes of dairy producer and processing operations and prepare a report for the Department of Agriculture. Specifically:

“Identify licensing barriers and examine possible solutions for small dairies in their efforts to become licensed as milk producers and milk processing plants.”

The workgroup will provide input and assist the workgroup leaders in drafting a comprehensive and inclusive report that quantifies the following key items:

- Identify barriers to small dairies in becoming licensed, which could include monetary limitations, misinformation, local zoning issues, water rights, etc.
- Examine solutions to these barriers. Discuss size appropriateness and economic feasibility. While this is not intended to be a feasibility study, factors to be studied should be suggested.

Other aspects to include in this report are:

- Identify Technical Assistance sources & Best Management Practices
- Recommend other actions to become licensed

Workgroup Members appointed by the Director of Agriculture

Carey Hunter – Pine Stump Farms	Okanogan County	Raw aged goat cheese
Tim Lukens – Grace Harbor Farms	Whatcom County	Raw and pasteurized Guernsey and goat milk, yogurt and other products
Gary Howell – Twin Oaks Dairy	Lewis County	Pasteurized Holstein milk and cheese
Lorri Conway – Conway Family Farms	Clark County	Raw goat milk
Sarah Brown – Dungeness Valley Creamery	Clallam County	Raw Jersey milk and cheese
Steve Campbell – Wilcox Family Farms	East and West Washington sites	Conventional dairy plant
Alexis Koester – Smith Brothers	East and West Washington sites	Conventional dairy plant
Paul Chudek	Whatcom County Health Dept	
Darrel Cochran	Thurston County Health Dept	
Gary Fredricks	WSU Cowlitz Dairy Extension	
Richard Dougherty	WSU Food Science Extension	
Gloria Edwards	Washington Dairy Federation	
Goldie Caughlan	PCC Natural Markets	
John Nelson	Western Center for Risk Management	

WSDA Workgroup coordinators

WSDA Food Safety Coordinator – Lucy Severs
WSDA Small Farm & Direct Marketing Coordinator – Fred Berman

Workgroup Coordinator – Nancy Jordan

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